

HONORING RABBI LEONARD S.
CAHAN

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2001

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and celebrate Rabbi Leonard Cahan, Senior Rabbi of Congregation Har Shalom of Potomac, Maryland who is retiring the summer after 27 years of service. Rabbi Cahan and his wife Elizabeth have lived in Potomac during this time, and raised their four children in this community.

Under Rabbi Cahan's leadership, Har Shalom has grown four-fold, to become a leading congregation in Montgomery County, Maryland and in the Conservative movement nationwide. He has guided Har Shalom to the forefront of egalitarianism, family, and adult education, participatory worship, community service, and interfaith activities. Har Shalom's worship services have been a model for the creation of a new conservative prayer book, Siddur Sim Shalom. Har Shalom was honored to have Rabbi Cahan serve as the senior editor of this prayer book, which has now been adopted by much of the Conservative Jewish movement.

Several years ago, the Good Morning America television program chose Rabbi Cahan as one of the nation's outstanding clergy. He appeared on the show, along with a minister and priest, discussing the religious, spiritual, and communal nature of their lives as clergymen, and their role in their communities.

Rabbi Cahan has deeply touched the lives of many members of Har Shalom, as well as others in the community. He has officiated numerous life cycle events such as baby namings, funerals, Bar and Bat Mitzvahs, marriages, and other times of family joy and sorrow. He has taught numerous courses to Har Shalom's congregants of all ages, as well as in interfaith settings in the community. Rabbi Cahan has no doubt been the inspiration to a growing number of Har Shalom's youth, who are or will become the rabbis of the next generation.

Rabbi Cahan will continue to serve as Rabbi Emeritus at Congregation Har Shalom following his retirement. He will continue to teach, officiate at High Holy Day services, and serve the spiritual needs of the Jewish community of Montgomery County.

ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

HON. MICHAEL R. McNULTY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2001

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, I join today with many of my colleagues in remembering the victims of the Armenian Genocide.

From 1915 to 1923, the world witnessed the first genocide of the 20th Century. This was clearly one of the world's greatest tragedies—the deliberate and systematic Ottoman annihilation of 1.5 million Armenian men, women, and children.

Furthermore, another 500,000 refugees fled and escaped to various points around the world—effectively eliminating the Armenian population of the Ottoman Empire.

From these ashes arose hope and promise in 1991—and I was blessed to see it. I was one of the four international observers from the United States Congress to monitor Armenia's independence referendum. I went to the communities in the northern part of Armenia, and I watched in awe as 95 percent of the people over the age of 18 went out and voted.

The Armenian people had been denied freedom for so many years and, clearly, they were very excited about this new opportunity. Almost no one stayed home. They were all out in the streets going to the polling places. I watched in amazement as people stood in line for hours to get into these small polling places and vote.

Then, after they voted, the other interesting thing was that they did not go home. They had brought covered dishes with them, and all of these polling places had little banquets afterward to celebrate what had just happened.

What a great thrill it was to join them the next day in the streets of Yerevan when they were celebrating their great victory. Ninety-eight percent of the people cast their ballots in favor of independence. It was a wonderful experience to be there with them when they danced and sang and shouted, "Ketse azat ankakh Hayastan"—long live free and independent Armenia! That should be the cry of freedom-loving people everywhere.

CELEBRATING SAUK PRAIRIE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AS ONE OF THE 100 TOP HOSPITALS

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2001

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Sauk Prairie Memorial Hospital and Clinics of Prairie du Sac, Wisconsin, being selected as one of the 100 Top Hospitals in the nation by the 100 Top Hospitals™: Benchmarks for Success study. This outstanding achievement is marked by the Sauk Prairie Memorial Hospital's excellent quality of care, efficiency of operations, and sustainability of overall performance.

The extraordinary dedication of hospital staff and the superior performance of the management team have earned Sauk Prairie Memorial Hospital this first-time award. In a time when rural hospitals are facing special challenges, this achievement is particularly noteworthy. The hospital's ability to perform well under adverse conditions and to face trials in the health care system today do indeed set a benchmark for success.

The quality health care that Sauk Prairie Memorial Hospital provides can be attributed not only to its doctors and nurses, but to all of the employees, board members, volunteers and medical staff. Without the generosity of those who have worked countless hours and donated hard-earned dollars, this accomplishment may not have been possible.

I applaud the Sauk Prairie Memorial Hospital for this truly prestigious award and I look

forward to hearing about future accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN R. GARRISON

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2001

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to John R. Garrison, Chief Executive Officer of the American Lung Association. This July, Mr. Garrison is retiring after eleven years of leading the American Lung Association, this nation's oldest voluntary health agency.

Over the last two decades, Mr. Garrison's work has made a vital contribution to public health and a significant difference in shaping national policy. Millions of Americans live in a safer, cleaner, and healthier world because of his work. He has been a national leader in the battle against the tobacco industry, the efforts to eliminate tuberculosis, the quest to curb asthma, and the continuing fight for cleaner air.

Throughout his career, Mr. Garrison has been in the vanguard of public health efforts. When the tobacco industry proposed a weak tobacco settlement with state attorneys general in 1997, Mr. Garrison was the first leader of a major health organization to step forward and oppose giving the tobacco industry immunity. Mr. Garrison also served on a tobacco advisory commission chaired by former Surgeon General C. Everett Koop and former FDA Commissioner David Kessler, playing a pivotal role in crafting the commission's final report, which remains a visionary blueprint of the policy changes needed to protect the public health from tobacco.

Under Mr. Garrison's leadership, the American Lung Association led the recent battle for tougher ozone and particulate matter standards under the Clean Air Act. In addition, he expanded the American Lung Association's commitment to lung disease research. These efforts led to the development of the Asthma Clinical Research Center program, a nationwide network of 19 clinical research centers designed to conduct a broad range of clinical studies on asthma.

From building a formal alliance with the Canadian Lung Association to assuming a leadership role in the International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease, Mr. Garrison has worked tirelessly to reduce the impact of lung disease around the world. This work continues with the American Lung Association's advocacy for a strong, enforceable global tobacco control treaty, the World Health Organization's Framework Convention on Tobacco Control.

From asthma to air pollution, from tobacco control to the elimination of tuberculosis, Mr. Garrison has been a leader. Millions of people around the globe breathe easier because of his efforts. It is my distinct pleasure to ask my colleagues to join me in saluting John Garrison for his outstanding achievements and thank him for his service to the American Lung Association and the nation in fighting lung disease and promoting lung health.